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Message Text

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64
ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 IO-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /057 R

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APPROVED BY ARA;HARYAN
ARA/EP:RWEBER
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 206564

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PE

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF NEW GOP

1. ON BASIS OF ADMITTEDLY LIMITED INFORMATION NOW AVAILABLE, DEPT TENDS TO FEEL THAT RECOGNITION QUESTION PROBABLY WILL NOT ARISE. ESSENTIAL CONTINUITY OF TWO GOVERNMENTS AT LEAST FOR PRESENT APPEARS TO BE COMPLETE EXCEPT FOR REPLACEMENT OF VELASCO BY MORALES BERMUDEZ, ALTHOUGH WE ASSUME THAT MANY OF VELASCO'S SUPPORTERS ARE OR WILL BE REPLACED. THUS, BASIC CONTINUITY OF THE REGIME HAS NOT BEEN BROKEN.

2. NEVERTHELESS, GENERAL USG POLICY IN THESE CASES IS TO AVOID ANY FORMAL CONTACTS WITH NEW GOVERNMENT WHICH COULD BE CONSTRUED AS INDICATING USG RECOGNITION OF IT FOR AT LEAST A FEW DAYS. PRINCIPAL REASONS FOR THIS APPROACH ARE TO ASSURE THAT NO FORMAL ACTIONS WITH RESPECT TO NEW GOVERNMENT ARE TAKEN UNTIL IT BECOMES CLEAR THAT MORALES BERMUDEZ IS IN FULL CONTROL, AND TO AVOID INSOFAR AS
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POSSIBLE CHARGES OF USG COMPLICITY WHICH MIGHT BE

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ENCOURAGED IF USG WERE TO TAKE EARLY ACTION INDICATING RECOGNITION OR CONTINUATION OF RELATIONS. YOU MAY AT YOUR DISCRETION MAINTAIN INFORMAL CONTACTS WITH GOP OFFICIALS AS DESIRABLE (SEE 11 FAM 113.7-2 AND 3).

3. WE ASSUME THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE CUSTOMARY CIRCULAR NOTE FROM GOP WITHIN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO. IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR USUAL PRACTICE, WE WOULD PLAN TO HOLD OFF RESPONDING UNTIL AT LEAST 6-8 OTHER OAS MEMBERS HAVE RESPONDED. (PLEASE SEND TEXT OF NOTE WHEN RECEIVED. WE WILL PROVIDE RESPONSE.) IN KEEPING WITH RECENT DEPARTMENTAL PRACTICE WE WILL WISH TO CONTINUE TO DEEMPHASIZE QUESTION OF RECOGNITION. THUS, WE WOULD EXPECT TO RESPOND WITH A DIPLOMATIC NOTE WHICH SIMPLY INDICATES OUR INTENTION TO CONTINUE RELATIONS. INGERSOLL

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TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PE
To: LIMA
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